said that we were prepared to go on making unparalleled sacrifices of blood and treasure, not to score a barren triumph over another nation, but to make possible the achievement of such a settlement.

Our replies to America and Germany constituted the first occasion on which the Allies had given to the world a complete outline of the terms of settlement they meant to enforce. The whole of the Versailles conditions were sketched out with unmistakable implication: the restoration by the enemy countries of all provinces conquered by force of arms and annexed against the wishes of the inhabitants; self-determination to be applied to subject races on the basis of nationality; reparations and indemnities to be claimed from Germany; steps to be taken which should prevent a repetition of the outrage of 1914, upon international right and peace. Mr. Balfour in a pregnant sentence forecast a League of Nations backed by the irresistible might of international sanction.

A forecast of the Versailles Treaty

All the replies made clear to the world the united resolve of the Allied countries not to make peace until the power of Prussian militarism had been broken.

These documents had an undoubted influence on the course which America took during the next few weeks. They brought her intervention

on
Effect in the side of the Allies
appreciably nearer*
America There is no doubt that the
Allied answers
to the German and Wilson
Note
favourably impressed American public
opinion, and
there was a perceptible change in the
atmosphere
across the Atlantic from
that date.